

MAUNDY THURSDAY

March 28, 2024 2:00 p.m.

Maundy is an English form of the Latin word for commandment. The theme of this day is Jesus' new commandment "love one another even as I have loved you," a love focused by contrast of the betrayal which followed. Jesus' love is demonstrated both in his example of servanthood and in his gift of himself in Holy Communion.

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST 2340 State Street, East Petersburg, PA 17520 717-569-1632 Website: www.trinityeastpete.org E-Mail:secretary@trinityeastpete.org The Rev. Dr. Christopher M. Rankin, Pastor The Rev. Harry G. Royer, Pastor Emeritus Mr. Michael Slechta, Director of Music and SOT Choir Director Dr. Robert T. Adams, Interim Organist Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE 2:00 P.M.

This afternoon our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Today we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

SILENT PRAYER

Holy God, source of all love, on this night of betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment on our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Welcome all visitors! We welcome all who worship with us. May the joy of Christ's presence and the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with peace and hope! We are honored by your presence and trust that you will join us in the praise and worship of God. Please sign our guest book in the narthex. If you are interested in church membership, please give your name and telephone number to Pastor Rankin. Welcome to the Eucharist! All who seek to follow Jesus and who seek the gifts Jesus offers us are invited to share in this sacrament of Holy Communion. *Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.*

Why no alleluias or hymns of praise during Lent? You may have noticed that the hymn of praise following the assurance of forgiveness is missing from our worship. We join other churches in omitting alleluias, glorias, and other hymns of praise as we turn again to our Lenten journey of exile and repentance. We long for the eschatological New Jerusalem "...the Jerusalem above; she is free, and she is our mother" (Galatians 4:26). We walk in darkness awaiting the city of God where... "there will be no more night; the servants of God need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever" (Revelation 22:5). Until then, we travel with our Lord Jesus into the desert to face the devil, we join him in his triumphant procession into Jerusalem, we pray with him in the garden of Gethsemane, and we follow him to the painful cross and to the cold dark tomb. We trust that our journey with Christ does not end there. On Easter we once again join the praises of the choirs of heaven: "The Lord is risen; the Kingdom has come; our joy is complete; and, in concert with the angels and saints, we greet the risen Lord with shouts of 'Alleluia!"

(http://catholicism.about.com/od/worship/f/No_Alleluia.htm).

CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY

TRINITY U.C.C. VISION STATEMENT:

All will know the love of God through the teachings of Jesus!!

Trinity U.C.C. is called by God to:

--Share God's love with our community

--Serve God's children

--Bring healing and wholeness to those in need

--Share the Gospel in liturgy, music and study

PRELUDE MUSIC

Prelude III

Frederick Jacobi

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

CALL TO WORSHIP

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM AND INVITATION TO THE TABLE

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (sung)

Amid all good things competing for our attention, where shall we go to find bread? We come to the upper room, seeking a table prepared for Jesus' disciples.

Among all the activities we can choose, where shall we invest our time and efforts? The church invites our discipleship, calling us into the body of Christ.

Among all who claim our loyalty, who encompasses the whole of life and truth?

God in Christ offers us wholeness, bringing all the pieces of our lives together.

Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come and taste the goodness of God!

HYMN

With You Always Text: Charles Hambrick-Stowe Music: William Sherwin(1826-1888), alt.



Words: Charles Hanbrick-Stowe, Lent 2024, Last 2 lines of verse 5, Mary A Lathbury, "Break Thou the Bread of Life", 1877 Tune: BREAD OF LIFE

Texts: Matthew 28:20, 25:35-40, 18:15-20, 26:26-29, 28:7-10

CONFESSION OF SIN

CALL TO CONFESSION

Friends in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and each other.

This is the struggle to which we were called at baptism.

Within the community of the church, God never wearies of forgiving sin and giving peace of reconciliation. On this day let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor, and enter the celebration of the great Three Days reconciled with God and with one another.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess together.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.	Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND CHORAL AMEN (PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

COLLECT FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY

Let us pray.

Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Exodus 12:1-14

Israel remembered its deliverance from slavery in Egypt by celebrating the festival of Passover. This festival featured the Passover lamb, whose blood was used as a sign to protect God's people from the threat of death. The early church described the Lord's supper using imagery from the Passover, especially in portraying Jesus as the lamb who delivers God's people from sin and death.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, "This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn with fire. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand, and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the Lord. I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from human to animal, and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

"This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

PSALTER

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications. Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live. What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord,

I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.

O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving-maid. You have loosed my bonds.

I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

In the bread and cup of the Lord's supper, we experience intimate fellowship with Christ and with one another because it involves his body given for us and the new covenant in his blood. Faithful participation in this meal is a living proclamation of Christ's death until he comes in the future.

For I received from the Lord the teaching that I passed on to you: that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took a piece of bread, gave thanks to God, broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is broken for you. Do this in memory of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup and said, "This cup is God's new covenant, sealed with my blood. Whenever you drink it, do so in memory of me." This means that every time you eat this bread and drink from this cup you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. John 13: 1-17, 31-35

The story of the last supper in John's gospel recalls a remarkable event not mentioned elsewhere: Jesus performs the duty of a slave, washing the feet of his disciples and urging them to do the same for one other.

Glory be to you, O Lord

It was now the day before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. He had always loved those in the world who were his own, and he loved them to the very end.

Jesus and his disciples were at supper. The Devil had already put into the heart of Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, the thought of betraying Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had given him complete power; he knew that he had come from God and was going to God. So he rose from the table, took off his outer garment, and tied a towel around his waist. Then he poured some water into a washbasin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel around his waist. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Are you going to wash my feet, Lord?"

Jesus answered him, "You do not understand now what I am doing, but you will understand later."

Peter declared, "Never at any time will you wash my feet!"

"If I do not wash your feet," Jesus answered, "you will no longer be my disciple."

Simon Peter answered, "Lord, do not wash only my feet, then! Wash my hands and head, too!"

Jesus said, "Those who have taken a bath are completely clean and do not have to wash themselves, except for their feet. All of you are clean – all except one. (Jesus already knew who was going to betray him; that is why he said, "All of you, except one, are clean.")

After Jesus had washed their feet, he put his outer garment back on and returned to his place at the table. "Do you understand what I have just done to you?" he asked. "You call me Teacher and Lord, and it is right that you do so, because that is what I am. I, your Lord and Teacher, have just washed your feet. You, then, should wash one another's feet. I have set an example for you, so that you will do just what I have done for you. I am telling you the truth, no slaves are greater than their master, and no messengers are greater than the one who sent them. Now that you know this truth, how happy you will be if you put it into practice..."

After Judas had left, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man's glory is revealed; now God's glory is revealed through him. And if God's glory is revealed through him, then God will reveal the glory of the Son of Man in himself, and he will do so at once. My children, I shall not be with you very much longer. You will look for me; but I tell you now what I told the Jewish authorities. 'You cannot go where I am going.' And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples."

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to you, O Christ

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

HOMILY

"The Promise is Fulfilled"

Pastor Rankin

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, and has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PEOPLE'S OFFERING

OFFERING DEDICATION

We celebrate the love we only dimly comprehend—your love for us, O God, in Jesus Christ. We have vowed to serve you, to minister to one another in Christ's name, and to pass on the love we have received. Remembering the upper room, we consecrate this offering and rededicate ourselves to the ministries you set before us your servant people. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord! Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy God, we praise and bless you for creation and the gift of life and for your abiding love which brings us close to you, the source of all blessing. We thank you for revealing your will for us in the giving of the law and in the preaching of the prophets. We thank you especially that in the fullness of time you sent Jesus, born of Mary, to live in our midst, to share in our suffering, and to accept the pain of death at the hands of those whom Jesus loved. We rejoice that in a perfect victory over the grave you raised Christ with power to become sovereign in your realm. We celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to gather your church by which your work may be done in the world and through which we share the gift of eternal life. Because you have come to us in Jesus Christ, enduring the Cross so that we might know eternal life, it is right that we should give you thanks and praise. With angels and archangels, saints and martyrs, the church on earth and the church in heaven we praise you with your holy name. Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God, Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the

Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE HOST & POURING OF THE CUP

As this grain was once scattered in the fields, and has come together in one bread, so we, with different needs and hopes, come together as one, for we share one bread.

The Bread of Life, broken for us.

The cup which we share is the cup of the New Covenant written in our hearts and witnessed by Jesus.

The Cup of Blessing, poured out for us and for the many.

AGNUS DEI

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace. Amen.

COMMUNICATION

(Those who wish to come forward will be invited by the pastor. The pastor will serve you the host, saying, "The Body of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" The assistant will present you with the cup, saying, "The Blood of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" Grape juice is in the chalice with the cross and wine is in the other chalice. If you need the pastor and assistant to come to you, please indicate that to someone near you or the pastor. If you do not wish to come forward, you are invited to use the packaged elements in the narthex and commune in your pew. The pastor will offer a blessing after everyone has communed.)

SILENT PRAYER BEFORE COMING TO THE ALTAR

I do not presume to come to your Table, Lord Jesus, trusting in my own righteousness, but in your great mercy. I am not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you, Lord, have promised always to have mercy. Therefore, I ask you to have mercy upon me and to enable me to receive your real life and presence through this Sacrament of Holy Communion. Fill all of us with the gift of your Holy Spirit so that we may grow in love for you and for each other. Cleanse us of all sin. Increase our love for you and all your people. Enable us to know that you are here and that you invite us to enter into a deeper and fuller union with you, our Lord and our God. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER UPON RETURNING FROM THE ALTAR

I bow before you, Lord Jesus, in awe and wonder. You have blessed me with the gift of your life and presence. I am not worthy, but you invite me to come to be washed, loved, and empowered. For this great gift, I thank you with my whole being. As you live in me, mold me and transform me so that I may be a sign of your presence and a vessel through which your love touches the persons I encounter. May my heart and soul and all my words and actions give glory and praise to you, my Savior and my Redeemer. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Trusting in Jesus who gave his life for the world, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

God who kneels to wash our feet, gather your church around the world during this holy week. Humble the powerful and lift up any who are marginalized. Renew our faith and make us bold in service and love to our neighbors. Merciful God, **receive our prayer**. God who blesses the grain of the soil and the fruit of the vine, inspire in us a reverent care for the earth. Sustain fields, gardens, and wild places, that all people are fed and every living thing flourishes. Merciful God, **receive our prayer**.

God whose greatest commandment is love, guide all who govern by the principle of love. Transform unjust human systems that oppress some for the gain of others. Restore communities as places of justice and concern for those who are vulnerable. Merciful God, **receive our prayer**.

God who was betrayed, comfort people everywhere who have suffered abuse at the hands of someone they knew and trusted. Heal the bodies, minds and hearts of victims of exploitation. Help all in pain to know that you are near. Merciful God, **receive our prayer**.

God who sits at the table with us, grant the joy of your presence to people celebrating first communion today, and to all who share the meal. Strengthen communities of faith in grace and courage. Merciful God, **receive our prayer**.

SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Lord Jesus, in a wonderful sacrament you strengthen us with the saving power of your suffering, death, and resurrection. May this sacrament of your body and blood so work in us that the fruits of your redemption will show forth in the way we live, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

MUSIC MEDITATION

A READING This Night He Broke the Bread by Dennis J. Hughes

(YOU MAY LEAVE IN SILENCE WHEN YOU ARE READY)

Ministering This Afternoon:

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Chris Rankin Lector: Rev. Sandy Morris Usher/Greeter: Rev. Bob Bistline, Gail Kogut Building Trustee: John Shelsky **EASTER MORNING BREAKFAST**: The Parish Life Committee is organizing the Easter breakfast on March 31 from 9:15-10:00 a.m. Look for the sign-up sheet on the table across from the church office. There will obviously be no Sunday School classes that day!



For those attending the Sunrise Service, please bring chairs. In case of inclement weather, the Sunrise Service will be held inside.

SERVICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are in need of ushers and greeters for our 8:00 a.m. Easter service. If you are able to help, please contact Pastor Chris or Carol Kratz.



As we have done in previous years, we invite people to place real or artificial flowers on the crosses at the front of the building beginning on Easter morning!

CHURCH MULCHING: The Property Committee is looking for volunteers on Saturday, April 6 @ 8:30 am to mulch the church property. We will be doing this in conjunction with the Trinity Preschool families and the Scout troop. Look for the sign-up sheet in the hallway across from the church office! **MEN OF TRINITY (M.O.T.) BREAKFAST:** The men will be meeting in April 13 at 8:00 AM at Family Fare Restaurant. The sign-up sheet is on the table across from the church office. This is open to all men of the church!

MYSTERY READERS: Trinity Preschool is looking for Spring Mystery Readers for April. Please contact the Preschool through the church office or Email: preschool@trinityeastpete.org to schedule a time to read a book to a preschool class. It's a fun way for Trinity members to support and be part of our preschool.



We would like to thank you for supporting our

fund raiser. When you redeem your coupon

at S. Clyde Weaver you get to choose from at least seven sub varieties:

Sweet Bologna · Ham · Italian · Turkey

Roast Beef - Chicken Salad - Tuna Salad

\$8 per Sub Coupon Sign-up sheet on table across from the office

> BREAD OPTIONS: white sub roll • bread • tortilla wrap

CHOICE OF YOUR CONDIMENTS: mayonnaise • mustard • creamy horseradish • olive oil • vinegar

> CHEESE OF YOUR CHOICE: American • Provolone • Swiss

YOUR CHOICES OF VEGETABLES:

lettuce • tomatoes • onions • marinated onions • sweet peppers banana peppers • hot peppers • black olives • pickles salt • pepper • herb mix • Parmesan

Please make checks payable to: TRINITY PRESCHOOL



Thursday, April 11 1:30 PM

Look for the sign-up on the table across from the church office!!!

PRAYER SHAWL: The Prayer Shawl will meet Tuesday, April 16 from 1:00-3:00 PM. They will continue to meet on the third Tuesday of each month! Come and bring a friend. Hope to see many of you there! Contact Betty Tyndall for more information.

DEVOTIONALS: The April-June edition of These Days are available on the table across from the church office or on the lower level by the portico entrance.

LENTEN DENIAL ENVELOPES: This year our Lenten Denial Offering is being donated to the international disaster relief charity call ShelterBox. ShelterBox was established in 2000, and partners with Rotary International, providing emergency shelter and other aid items to families around the world who have lost their homes to disaster and conflict. ShelterBox is funded by public donations. A ShelterBox provides more than just a tent but also includes a kitchen set, blankets, ground mats, hats, gloves, scarves, mosquito net, water filtration system, water carriers, solar light box, children's school kit, hygiene supplies and wash basin. It also has a tool kit with a hammer, saw, wire cutters, and rope. The box weighs approximately 110 lbs. and is approximately 2'3" x1.4" x 11" in size. The price of a ShelterBox is \$1000. As of April 2021, ShelterBox has provided support to two million people since its start in 2000.

2024 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS: Upcoming dates for worship aids are: April 7 & 28. Upcoming dates for Chancel Flowers are April 7 & 28. The price for flowers is \$60. The price for worship aids is \$26. Look for the charts on the bulletin board in the narthex or call Carol in the church office.

NEW DIRECTORY: Look for a draft of a church directory across from the church office and make any necessary changes by the end of the month!